

From: Allen Casey [<mailto:acasey@caseyarchitecture.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2008 10:55 AM
To: Cumley, Bob
Cc: nbrown715@aol.com; Rusty Worley (Rusty Worley)
Subject: Public Square - Implementation

Bob,

I sincerely hope we can see some earnest progress on the implementation of the rejuvenation of our Public Square. As we all know, there has been an extensive planning and design process with as much or more public participation as any I have seen in some time, and the resulting design concept is excellent. Rusty and the UDA have great plans for assisting with the funding effort, and very importantly, with the plans for the programming and usage of the space. The appropriate homework has been done - now it is time to get on with implementation.

There are quite a few of us who have invested substantially in our private sector efforts in and around the Square, and who are counting on the core of our city, the Square, also being revitalized. I have over \$3.5 million in our Holland Building project, our Sterling project will be about \$ 2.5 million, and we will have about \$1 million in our current historic condo project, The Wilshire. And I am one of the smaller players down here.

But above all, this rejuvenation of the Square is for the entire region. As a community we have discussed for many years the significance of our center city to the overall development of the Springfield region. It is the area visitors and newcomers ask about, and the area people regard as what is distinctive about our city, what sets us apart from every other city dominated by suburbs. And our core, our public square, is presently a disgrace and an embarrassment.

We have in place the process for changing that, however, and the Square, once the proposed rejuvenation is completed, will be beautiful. It will be the attraction and the center piece we deserve, and that our city needs. We in the UDA and the private sector will of course continue to do our part.

Please, we can delay no longer. We have the input and the design solution. Now we have to see some implementation.

Thank you.

Allen Casey, AIA

205 Park Central East, Suite 300
Springfield, MO 65806
Tel 417.869.3300
Fax 417.869.1996